TRUE NEWS.

This may be Printed, June 25, 1685. R. L. S.

TO satisfie Itching Ears, which nothing but matters of strange and wonderful Consequence can please; We have thought fit to Relate such a World of News (a thing generally Inquired after by all Ages, Sexes, Complections and Constitutions) that no *Dissenting Caball*, nor private *Coffee-Room*, set apart for peculiar Friends, can furnish the like, which you'l say must needs be strange indeed; but that the Reader may not think it more strange than true, let him know, that in this case we have nothing to do with Sir *John Mandevils* Travels, but passing by *Gees* with double Head-pieces and Men without them, we Relate the Wonders of the *Antipodes*, a Country where the People set Foot to Foot with us, a People whom many suppose to walk Irregular and contrary to the ordinary Course of Men. For if Old Wives Tales may be Credited, they walk with their Heads downward, though they have the same Conjecture of us. But certain it is, they are as much our opposite, as the *Nadir* is to the *Zenith*; and indeed, not only so in place and scituation, but in many other things worthy of Observation. For there the Poets are extreamly Rich, and purchase great Estates for their posterity. The Virgins without a blush, lay aside their cumberous Modesty, and Accost the bashful Youths in pleasing Dialects, Tuned to the softest strains of Love and Rapture. Old Men, whose Fronts expose the characters of Time make stripplings (on whose Chins no Down appears) their Councellors. The Puritans or such, would be so distinguished from the rest of Men, are there a harmless People, free from factious noise, and Strife, Obedience and Loyalty, being all their studie. There they speak not evil of the Rulers of their People, but chearfully Obey for Conscience sake, being glad of any opportunity to shew their readiness to a complyance with the Laws, and real kindness to the Magistrate. The Married Women there seem Mutes, no Harangus are ever heard, but sacred silence Seals their Lips, unless some Urgency relateing to their Husbands business require the motion of their Tongues, and then their Language is set forth in so soft a Tone, as near resembles Whispering, no loud revilings nor upbraiding trouble that Calm Region, Scolding is a stranger there amongst the Female Sex, and all the Tittle Tattle, that Imbelishes our Gossipings, is there the Talent of the Men, who keep up a Correspondence to tell Stories of their Wives and Servants, and to Register the thousand little fashions and fancys of the Times. Catch-poles are there so modest, that they'l take no mony for what they call Civility, but wait as long as is required without a Doit, nay shun if possible the party they are to Attach, and hate the Name of Blood sucker. Goalers are kind and charitable, and all the Beggers Ride on Stately Steeds, whilst those that gives them Alms, trudge by, and furnish them with Coine, without a second asking. The Maids there rule their Mistresses, and have them at their Beck, all that they say, being speedily performed without reply or grumbling. A Tayler there n'er keeps a Hell, Cabbidge is a mear stranger to him, he scorns to filch, and flys the sight of Coucumbers. Usurers are the most Charitable Doners, and Younger Brothers for the most part, the Richest Men, who are altogether saving and nigardly.

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In the *Antipodes*, Old men are ſent to School to learn Morality, and Boys rule all the Roaſt: Briſk Laſſes Accoaſt the Youngſters in the Streets, clap them on the Cheeks, Kiſs them, and Coach them home, Revel with them all Night in Loves Elezium, and in the Morning paying them well for their pains, ſend them packing till the next opportunity gives way to a freſh Enjoyment. Your Plow-men there are the greateſt Hectors imaginable, and the Carters turn Bullies. The Diminitive Preciſians, ſuch as we term Quakers, there Rant it beyond the Extravagancy of Formuliſts, ſcorning to Lye and Cheat in ſecret, but what they get, they take by open violence, hateing a Demure look and a ſet Face, more than a *Preſbyterian* does the ſound of an Organ-pipe. There inſtead of plain Garments, they flaunt it to the hight of extravagancy, Luxury and Riot, are their common attendance, they had rather commit many Outrages, than Cheat one Secretly under the pretence of Religion; and had rather goe to publick Stews, than under the Umbrage of a pretended zelous Cant, to prevaile upon the weakneſs of a Siſter, for the propagation of a Brotherhood. As for *Independants* in the Antipodes, would a body think it, they are abſolute Loyaliſts, holding there is no Religion without a Church, and no Church without a free Communitie and orderly Government; that no Government can ſubſiſt without Magiſtrates or Governours, on which of neceſſity the Members muſt have a dependency. That of all Magiſtrates the King (as the immediate ſubſtitute of Heaven) muſt needs be the *Supream* in *Eccleſiaſtical* and *Civil Affairs*; therefore their Obedience to him, next to that they owe to the Deitie, is a principle of the greateſt conſequence amongſt 'em.

Your Ana-Baptiſts likewiſe are wonderfully altered, from what we find 'em here, for there inſtead of being ſtiff-necked and ſtubborn, they are humble and meek, and will not dip their Children over Head and Ears for fear of Drowning them, but are conformable in Baptiſm. In a word, The People of that Country are many, the Dimentions being large, but as Diametrically, oppoſite in manners and opinion, as in ſcituation; but however they handle the matter in their ordinary affairs, they Jump in the main, and render a ready Obedience to their Superiors without repining, have no animoſities, nor diviſions amongſt themſelves, but every one being content in his Station; they render themſelves happy in a continued Unitie and Native freedom; ſo that thoſe whom we imagine to walk prepoſterouſly in many things, are found more Regular than our ſelves.

As for the Manners, Cuſtoms, Laws and Policies; together with the Scituation, Growth, Building, Strength, and the means by which it came to be diſcovered, it would be here too tedious to Incert. Let it ſuffice then, that I have given the Reader ſome touches, by which he may gueſs at the reſt; but in gueſſing, if he ſhould chance to miſtake, ten to one but upon further Inquiry, he may be rectified.

And ſtranger things may be brought forth to Light,
Which interpoſing Earth ſhrouds from our Sight.

FINIS.

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